

COMPRENSIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS - TAREA 1 (7 x 1 = 7 puntos)

Read this text and choose the best sentence (A, B, C, etc) for each gap. Two of the sentences do not correspond to any of the blanks. Question 0 has been completed as an example. **WRITE YOUR ANSWERS IN THE CORRESPONDING BOX ON THE ANSWER SHEET PROVIDED.**

IN DEFENSE OF THE ENDANGERED TREE OCTOPUS

(AND OTHER WEB MYTHS)



This March marked the 10th anniversary of the campaign to save the Pacific Northwest Tree Octopus from extinction. If you're not familiar with the elusive tree octopus, it's an arboreal cephalopod found in the temperate rainforests of the Olympic National Park west of Seattle. Every spring the creatures migrate from their lairs in the forest canopy to ___(0)___ in the Hood Canal; the rainy climate keeps their skin moist the rest of the year. But logging and suburbanization have decimated this gentle species' habitat and reduced the breeding population to critically low numbers, leading some to argue that it should be placed on the Endangered Species

List.

Do I need to add at this point that the Pacific Northwest Tree Octopus is completely fictional? Apparently, I do. Lyle Zapato, a Washington-based author and Web publisher, invented the tree octopus in 1998. The creature is the star of an extensive and hilarious parody website that has, improbably, worked its way into ___(1)___ in the Internet age.

The question is whether children raised on the Web can parse reality properly. And every so often the educational establishment and the mainstream media—most recently, the New York Times—drag up Zapato's site as an example of ___(2)___ that gives the Web a bad name, by fooling unsuspecting young Internet users into thinking it's for real.

To me, such indignance over the untrustworthiness of the Internet is both amusing and a little sad. Yes, the Internet is a fertile breeding ground for ___(3)___ . Yes, children must be taught how to sort truth from fiction. But come on! Without the occasional tree octopus, the Web would be a far poorer place.

The tree octopus's transformation from ___(4)___ for the hazards of the Web apparently began in 2006, when University of Connecticut researcher Donald Leu used the site in a study of online literacy among seventh graders. Leu asked 25 students from middle schools in Connecticut to review Zapato's site. Interviewed later, all of the students said they believed that the tree octopus was real. Few of the students, Leu reported, could pinpoint the obvious clues that the site is a spoof, such as the information that the natural predator of the tree octopus is the Sasquatch. And even after Leu told them the site was a fake, a handful of the students continued to insist that the tree octopus is real.

The Times cited Leu's findings in ___(5)___ article two Sundays ago asking whether reading on the Web is really reading at all. "Some argue that the hours spent prowling the Internet are the enemy of reading—diminishing literacy, wrecking attention spans and destroying a precious common culture that exists only through the reading of books," the piece said. The article's conclusion from Leu's study? "Web readers are persistently weak at judging whether information is trustworthy."

But I think there are several other interpretations for Leu's findings, not all of them so troubling. One is the possibility that education professors are persistently weak at judging whether

seventh graders are pulling their legs. Another, more likely lesson is that kids are simply open-minded, and naturally receptive to far-fetched ideas until they have (6) .

Wikipedia classifies the Pacific Northwest Tree Octopus website as an “Internet hoax.” But I prefer to think of it as an experiment with reality—a hybrid of satiric humor and science fiction, made more piquant by the fact that, on the surface at least, it purports to be true. Skillful hoaxsters mix and match factual references into (7) enough to tweak our sense of reality—and to underscore, in the process, how bizarre life really is.

(Source: *Wade Roush, Xconomy*)

A	a hand-wringing feature
B	evidence to the contrary
C	harmless spoof into poster child
D	hoaxes and misinformation
E	new blends that are just plausible
F	scientific findings that are more fantastic
G	the center of the debate over literacy
H	the kind of seemingly authoritative material
I	the very existence of these creatures
J	<i>their ancestral spawning grounds GAP 0 ✓</i>



soluciones

COMPRESIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS

TAREA 1: IN DEFENSE OF THE ENDANGERED TREE OCTOPUS (7 X 1 = 7 PUNTOS)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
G	H	D	C	A	B	E

TAREA 2: THE PORCINE QUEEN 7 X 1 = 7 PUNTOS)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B	A	B	B	C	A	A

TAREA 3: ONE SIZE FITS ALL (12 X 0,5 = 6 PUNTOS)

1	2	3	4	5	6
C	B	B	C	A	B
7	8	9	10	11	12
A	C	A	B	C	C